

PAINSCASTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1962



Officials:-

Medical Officer of Health ... W.M.E.Anderson, M.D., B.Ch., D.S.O.

Public Health Inspector ... Wm.D.Morgans, C.R.S.H.

PAINSCASTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

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Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report upon the sanitary conditions and state of the public health in the Painscastle Rural District during the year 1962.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/63(Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

SECTION 1. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

Area 31,414 acres.

The Rural District of Painscastle is situated in the southern part of Radnorshire adjoining the Counties of Hereford and Brecon and is an agricultural district.

Population

Census 1931	2,149.
" 1951	1,790.
" 1961	1,736.
Estimated Midsummer 1962	1,690.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the past 10 yrs. was:-

<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
1,820	1,808	1,810	1,810	1,790	1,800	1,780	1,790	1,780	1,710

Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses in the district was 561 giving an average number of 3.02 persons per house.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 population</u>
Legitimate	7	9	16	
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	
	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>17</u>	10.0

The corrected birthrate was 11.0

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 18.0

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average.

Still Births

There were no still births registered in 1962.

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 population</u>
	11	5	16	9.4

The corrected death rate was 8.4

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11.9

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average.

Infant Deaths

No deaths were recorded in children under one year.

Maternal Deaths

No deaths could be attributed to childbirth or abortion in 1962.

<u>Analysis of Causes of Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	0
Malignant neoplasm (breast)	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	0
Coronary disease	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1	0
Other heart disease	1	2
Other circulatory disease	2	0
Bronchitis	1	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0
	<u>11</u>	<u>5</u>

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

Public Health Officers Mr. Garfield G. Evans, who had been Public Health Inspector of the Painscastle Rural District Council since 1947, retired in May 1962. The post was filled by the appointment of Mr. Wm. D. Morgans, who was previously Engineer and Surveyor to the Council jointly with Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils.

Laboratory Facilities Laboratory facilities are available at Hereford and Carmarthen and all water samples are sent to these Laboratories. Investigation required in the control of infectious disease is performed by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford.

Nursing and Other Facilities The County Council is responsible for these services. The County Council also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria, polio-myelitis and whooping-cough is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals The hospital needs of the district for all diseases, apart from infectious diseases, are provided for at the County and General Hospitals at Hereford. A few cases are also admitted to Brecon and Llandrindod. Hereford and Merthyr Tydfil Isolation Hospitals receive cases of infectious disease.

Mortuary and Post-Mortem Facilities The Breconshire Welfare Committee have loaned a room at Cockcroft House, Hay-on-Wye, for this purpose and this equipped and maintained jointly by Painscastle and Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils. A part-time Mortuary Attendant is available under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Disinfection The methods used principally for disinfection are fumigation and spraying.

SECTION 3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Hay and Painscastle Area Water Scheme

Negotiations have continued during the year between the District Valuers and the various landowners for the acquisition of land for the construction of reservoirs and pumping stations and the majority of these were satisfactorily completed. Consultations have also continued with the owners of the land adjoining Llanbwchllyn Lake. The draft Water Order for the scheme has been prepared.

Water supplies to the district

The Council own five water supplies serving the villages of their district and details for each parish are given below:-

Boughrood Parish

Water for this village comes from springs situated in the parish of Llyswen and is supplied by the Hay Rural District Council. Water is fed by gravitation across Boughrood Bridge over the River Wye.

There was an adequate supply of water for the village during the year, but during drought periods the yield from the springs is greatly reduced and shortages occur.

The farms and cottages away from the village are served by small private piped supplies and springs and these too are affected by drought periods.

Number of properties connected to public water mains 27.

Population served from public mains 81.

4 samples of water were taken during the year; 2 of these being satisfactory and 2 being unsatisfactory.

Bryngwyn Parish

The Council own the supply serving the hamlet of Rhosgoch and this gave an adequate supply during the year; water is collected from shallow springs to a small reservoir and is fed to the properties by gravitation.

The other farms and cottages in the parish have their own private piped supplies or springs and these are generally inadequate in times of drought.

Number of properties connected to public water mains 21.

Population served from public mains 63.

No samples of water were taken during the year.

Clyro Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Clyro. During a dry period in the autumn the yield from the land springs failed to meet the demand of consumers and an overflow from a nearby private supply was used to augment the village supply for a short period.

The farms and cottages away from the village have their own private piped supplies or springs and these are generally insufficient in times of drought.

Number of properties connected to public water mains 45.

Population served from public mains 136.

3 samples of water were taken during the year and these were fairly satisfactory.

10 samples were taken from private sources; and these could be classified as 7 satisfactory; 1 suspicious and 2 unsatisfactory.

Glasbury Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Glasbury.

Water is collected from land springs at Gwmbach to a reservoir and thence by gravitation to the consumers' premises. During dry periods this source has failed to meet the demand and has been augmented by the Glasbury(Breconshire) supply owned by Hay Rural District Council; water being obtained from the reservoir at Velindre and fed by gravitation across Glasbury Bridge over the River Wye.

Glasbury Parish (Cont'd)

The Council obtain water from Radnorshire County Council (Smallholdings Department) and this is piped to a number of houses at Ciltwrch and Ffynnon-Gynydd situated in the northern part of the parish. Some interruptions were experienced during the year owing to failure at the source of supply.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	100.
Population served from public mains	297.
One sample of water taken during the year was satisfactory.	

Llandewi-fach Parish

There is no public water supply in this parish; the farms obtaining water from their own private piped supplies or springs.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
One sample of water from a private source was considered suspicious.	

Llanbedr-Paincastle Parish

This parish has one small private piped supply serving the village of Paincastle comprising 4 farms and 6 houses. The other properties in the parish have their own small private piped supplies or springs, and these are generally inadequate in times of drought.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
No samples were taken during the year.	

Llanstephan Parish

This parish comprises some 31 dwellings of which 13 are served by a private piped supply. The other properties have their own private piped supplies or springs.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
One sample from a private source was not satisfactory.	

Llandilo-Graban Parish

There is one small Council supply serving a standpipe and this gave an adequate supply of water for the four properties involved. The other properties are served by their own private piped supplies or springs. This parish suffers greatly from a water shortage in drought periods.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
Number of properties served from public standpipes	4.
Population served from standpipe	12.

Llowses Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Llowses. The yield from the springs dropped to a low level during the summer but no actual shortage occurred and no restrictions were necessary. The other properties in the parish have their own small private piped supplies or springs.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	17.
Number of properties supplied from standpipes	3.
Population served from public water supply	57.
One sample was taken during the year and this was unsatisfactory.	

General

Number of inspections to water supplies by the Public Health Inspector during 1962	36.
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Drainage and Sewerage

The position in the district with regard to public sewerage schemes for the villages is as follows:-

Glasbury Village

The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village had been almost completed by the end on 1962 apart from one or two small items. The owners of the various properties will be asked to connect to the public sewers and it is hoped that the majority will do so during the coming year.

Drainage and Sewerage (Cont'd)

Llowes Village

An Engineering Inspector from the Ministry of Housing & Local Government investigated the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village in 1961, and following slight modifications requested by the Inspector, the Ministry gave approval to the scheme. This village will be the next one to benefit, following on the completion of the Glasbury scheme.

Clyro Village

Investigations into the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village will be undertaken following completion of the scheme for Llowes.

The Painscastle Rural District Council have previously agreed with the Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils for the carrying out of such schemes in rotation throughout their districts.

General

There are 5 small septic tank units constructed by the Council and serving small housing estates in the district; the maintenance of these being carried out by the direct labour staff employed jointly with Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils. The emptying of the septic tanks is undertaken when required by a local Contractor.

Number of inspections to sewage disposal works 8.

Public Cleansing

The refuse collection service is undertaken by the Council's workmen and lorry jointly with Hay R.D.C. and Hay U.D.C. under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector; the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on Clyro refuse tip.

Refuse is collected once weekly in the parishes of Clyro, Llowes, Glasbury, Boughrood and Llanstephan, and monthly in the parishes of Bryngwyn, Llandilo-Graban and Llanbedr-Painscastle.

Number of inspections made to the refuse tip 10.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The sanitary inspection of the area is undertaken by the Public Health Inspector and the following details give information relating to this work for 1962:-

Nuisances

Number of complaints received	20.
Number of complaints investigated	20.
Number of premises inspected	20.
Number of premises re-visited	8.
Number of Preliminary Notices served	0.
Number of Abatement Notices served	0.

Vermineous Premises (excluding rats and mice)

Any premises found as a result of complaint or upon investigation to be infested with bed-bugs or other vermin would be treated with D.D.T. preparations. No premises were found infested during the year.

Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Houses let in Lodgings

There are no such premises in the district.

Licensed Premises

There are 6 licensed premises in the district.

Number of inspections made 10.

Caravan Sites

At the end of 1962 there were two licensed caravan sites in the district. One site near the River Wye in the Parish of Llandilo-Graban for 6 caravans was on a temporary licence which expired at the end of 1962. The other site is at Fforest Cwm Farm in the parish of Clyro, and was granted a licence for 3 permanent and 9 holiday caravans in 1961. The owner has erected a sanitary accommodation block and drainage facilities in preparation for the 1963 holiday season.

Number of visits to caravan sites/vans and sheds 8.

Rodent Control

One full-time rodent operator is employed who works under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. The operator is similarly employed by Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils.

	1960	1961	1962
Number of premises inspected during the year	366	393	358
Number of premises found infested	77	99	79
Number of premises treated by the rodent operator	55	68	58
Number of premises treated by the occupier	22	31	21
Estimated number of rats killed in the year	563	977	742
Number of dead rats recovered during the year	166	230	221

Legal Proceedings

No legal proceedings were undertaken by the Council in 1962.

SECTION 4. HOUSING

The Council own 46 houses and of these 42 have been built since 1946.

There were 2 private houses built in 1962 making a total of 22 private houses completed since 1946.

The Council received 2 applications for Discretionary Grants during the year and these were approved: the amount of Grant being £698.

The Council received three applications for Standard Grants which amounted to £535.

Four farmhouses were improved during the year with a grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food.

Number of house to house inspections made 23.

Housing Applications

At the end of 1962 there were 12 applicants on the Housing List for Council houses as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Number of applicants</u>
Clyro	4
Llowes	3
Glasbury	5
	<u>12</u>

Housing Act, 1957

1. Number of houses demolished 0.
2. Number of unfit houses closed 0.
3. Number of unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied 1.
4. Number of unfit houses in temporary use 0.
5. Number of houses unfit for human habitation at the end of 1962. 33.

SECTION 5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

There is one slaughterhouse in the district and this is situated at Boughrood. The Appointed Day by which this slaughterhouse should have been brought up to the standard required by the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, was 1st. January, 1963, but the owner had decided that in order to comply with the Regulations it was necessary to construct a new building and this would not be completed by that date. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food therefore approved another Appointed Day which is the 1st. October, 1963, and it is expected that the new slaughterhouse will be fully completed by that date.

Number of inspections made to the slaughterhouse 50.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)						
Number inspected	42	0	2	124	49	0
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	0	0	3	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	2.4	0	0	2.4	0	0
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	0	0	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

Foods condemned

There was 11 lbs. of meat condemned during the year.
Any condemned meat is collected by a Hereford firm who deal in waste food products. All other foods are disposed of in the Council's refuse tip after spraying with fluorescene stain.

Milk

There are two dealers registered in the district who sell Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised milk. There are no dairies in the district.

The responsibility for registering dealers and dairies and the taking of milk samples is the responsibility of the County Council.

Ice-cream Premises

There are 3 premises registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream. No samples were taken during the year.

Number of inspections to ice-cream premises 6.

Food Preparation Rooms (including bakehouses)

There are no such premises in the district.

Fried Fish Shops

There are no such premises in the district.

Shops

There are 6 shops which deal in food in the district and these may be classified as follows:-

Grocers (General) 4.

Tobacconists/Confectioners 1.

Butchers 1.

Number of inspections made to food shops in 1962 8.

No foodstuffs from shops were condemned.

SECTION 6. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The district was remarkably free from infectious disease during 1962; there were no cases reported.

Tuberculosis

There was one case of tuberculosis of the respiratory system notified and one death during the year.

Venereal Disease

The County Council has an agreement with the County Hospital at Hereford for the treatment of such cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Diphtheria Immunisation and Polio-myelitis Vaccination

The County Council are responsible for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and polio-myelitis and details for the district will be found in the annual report of the County Medical Officer.

Facilities for immunisation and vaccination are available at the clinic in Hay-on-Wye owned by Breconshire County Council, and at the surgeries of the medical practitioners in the area.

Yours faithfully,

W. M. E. ANDERSON.

Council Offices,

Hay-on-Wye,

Hereford.

Telephone: Hay-on-Wye 79.

Medical Officer of Health

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF PAINSCASTLE IN THE COUNTY OF RADNOR.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	5	10	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	10	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found:-

There were no defects found in the premises listed above during the year 1962.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK
Sections 110 and 111

There was no outwork done in the district during the year.

W. M. E. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

